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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-122-862]

Certain Uncoated Groundwood Paper from Canada: Amended Preliminary Countervailing Duty Determination

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) is amending the scope of the countervailing duty (CVD) investigation of certain uncoated groundwood paper (UGW paper) from Canada to conform with the scope published in the preliminary determination of the companion antidumping duty (AD) investigation of UGW paper from Canada. The period of investigation is January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016.

DATES: Applicable [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Medley, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4987.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Background

Commerce published its *CVD Preliminary Determination* on January 16, 2018.<sup>1</sup> On March 19, 2018, Commerce published its *AD Preliminary Determination*, and amended the scope to exclude certain products, based upon comments received from interested parties.<sup>2</sup>

### Amended Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is UGW paper from Canada. We are amending the scope of the CVD investigation to conform with the scope of the companion AD investigation, including the exclusions of: (1) certain uncoated groundwood paper which has undergone a creping process over the entire surface area of the paper; (2) certain uncoated groundwood construction paper and uncoated groundwood manila drawing paper in sheet or roll format; and (3) certain uncoated groundwood directory paper. These exclusions were first enumerated in the *AD Preliminary Determination*. For a complete description of the amended scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

### Suspension of Liquidation

We have not revised the estimated cash deposit rates published in the *CVD Preliminary Determination*. In accordance with section 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise as described in the amended scope of the investigation, entered, or

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<sup>1</sup> See *Certain Uncoated Groundwood Paper from Canada: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination*, 83 FR 2133 (January 16, 2018) (*CVD Preliminary Determination*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Certain Uncoated Groundwood Paper from Canada: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures*, 83 FR 11960 (March 19, 2018) (*AD Preliminary Determination*) and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum. See also, Memorandum “Certain Uncoated Groundwood Paper from Canada: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination,” dated March 12, 2018, which was placed on the record of both the AD and CVD investigations.

withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*, and to continue to require a cash deposit, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.205(d). Additionally, because certain products are now excluded from the scope of the investigation, Commerce will instruct CBP to terminate suspension of liquidation of those excluded products, and to refund any cash deposits previously posted with respect to them.

Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the International Trade Commission of its amended determination. This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

*Dated: April 9, 2018.*

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Gary Taverman,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations,  
performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the  
Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

## Appendix I

### Amended Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation includes certain paper that has not been coated on either side and with 50 percent or more of the cellulose fiber content consisting of groundwood pulp, including groundwood pulp made from recycled paper, weighing not more than 90 grams per square meter. Groundwood pulp includes all forms of pulp produced from a mechanical pulping process, such as thermo-mechanical process (TMP), chemi-thermo mechanical process (CTMP), bleached chemi-thermo mechanical process (BCTMP) or any other mechanical pulping process. The scope includes paper shipped in any form, including but not limited to both rolls and sheets.

Certain uncoated groundwood paper includes but is not limited to standard newsprint, high bright newsprint, book publishing, and printing and writing papers. The scope includes paper that is white, off-white, cream, or colored.

Specifically excluded from the scope are imports of certain uncoated groundwood paper printed with final content of printed text or graphic. Also excluded are papers that otherwise meet this definition, but which have undergone a supercalendering process.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, excluded are papers that otherwise meet this definition, but which have undergone a creping process over the entire surface area of the paper.

Also excluded are uncoated groundwood construction paper and uncoated groundwood manila drawing paper in sheet or roll format. Excluded uncoated groundwood construction paper and uncoated groundwood manila drawing paper: (a) have a weight greater than 61 grams per square meter; (b) have a thickness greater than 6.1 caliper, *i.e.*, greater than .0061" or 155 microns; (c) are produced using at least 50 percent thermomechanical pulp; and (d) have a shade, as measured by CIELAB, as follows: L\* less than or 75.0 *or* b\* greater than or equal to 25.0.

Also excluded is uncoated groundwood directory paper that: (a) has a basis weight of 34 grams per square meter or less; and (b) has a thickness of 2.6 caliper mils or 66 microns or less.

Certain uncoated groundwood paper is classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) in several subheadings, including 4801.00.0120, 4801.00.0140, 4802.61.1000, 4802.61.2000, 4802.61.3110, 4802.61.3191, 4802.61.6040, 4802.62.1000, 4802.62.2000, 4802.62.3000, 4802.62.6140, 4802.69.1000, 4802.69.2000, and 4802.69.3000. Subject merchandise may also be imported under several additional subheadings including 4805.91.5000, 4805.91.7000, and 4805.91.9000.<sup>4</sup> Although the HTSUS subheadings are

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<sup>3</sup> Supercalendering imparts a glossy finish produced by the movement of the paper web through a supercalender which is a stack of alternating rollers of metal and cotton (or other softer material). The supercalender runs at high speed and applies pressure, heat, and friction which glazes the surface of the paper, imparting gloss to the surface and increasing the paper's smoothness and density.

<sup>4</sup> The following HTSUS numbers are no longer active as of January 1, 2017: 4801.00.0020, 4801.00.0040, 4802.61.3010, 4802.61.3091, and 4802.62.6040.

provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

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